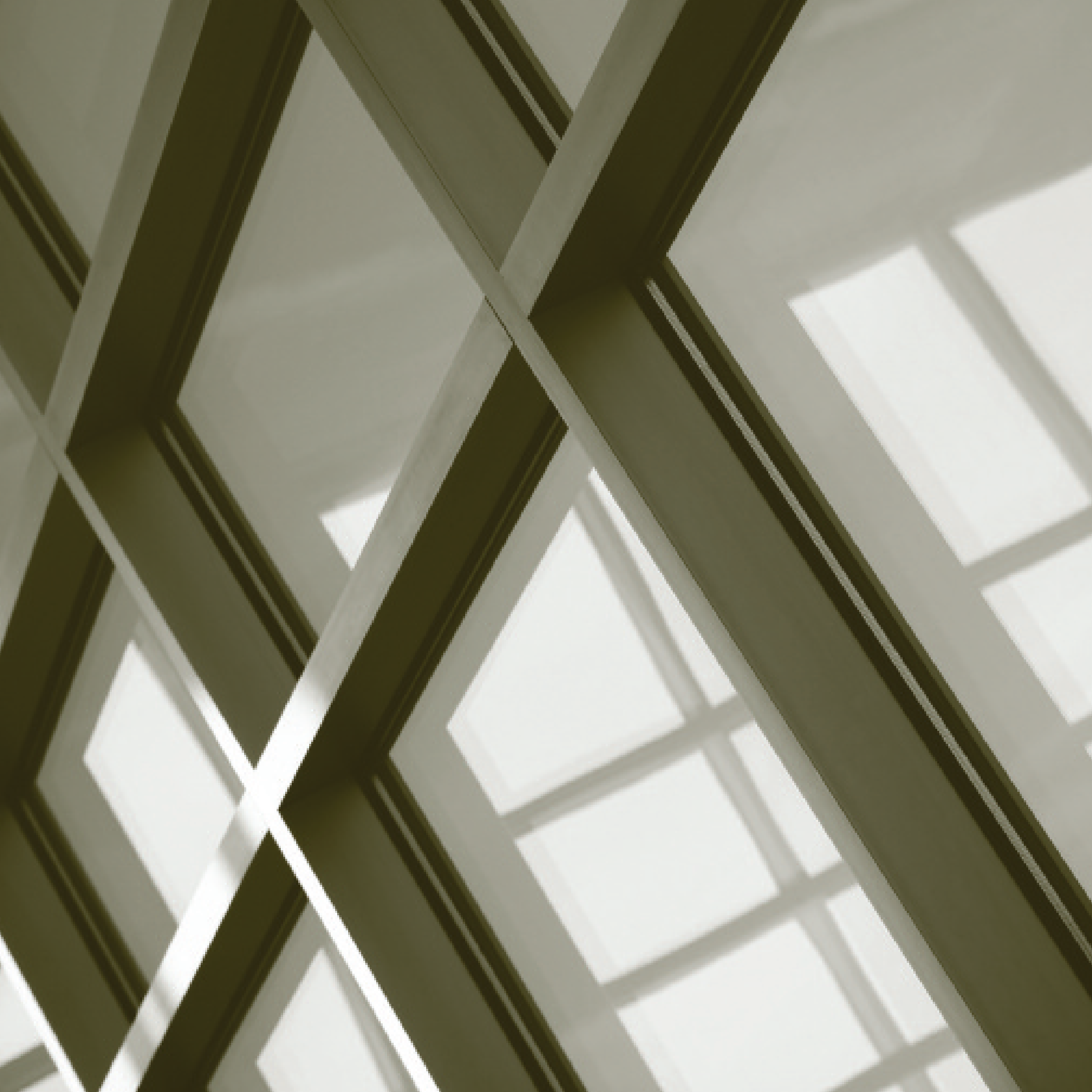


I dwell in Possibility–

Ypsilanti District Library
Annual Report 2009



A fairer House

than Prose–

More numerous

of Windows–

Superior–for Doors–

Without a doubt, 2009 was a challenging year for our community. *Loss of jobs, home foreclosures, and other economic misfortunes left many residents facing great hardships. The Ypsilanti District Library's budget also suffered the effects of the recent economic downturn in reduced property taxes (which account for 90% of the library's annual operating budget) and decreased state funding.*

Despite the challenges of these times, YDL continues to honor our promise to the community we serve. In iconic American poet Emily Dickinson's poem "Dwell in Possibility," we find a fitting theme for our 2009 Annual Report. Whether you walk through the doors at Whittaker Road, Michigan Avenue, or Superior; climb aboard the Navigator; or click on our website, you are entering a place of possibility. YDL and its staff and resources provide our patrons with the tools for the possibility of a new beginning; the possibility of inspiration; the possibility of growth, exploration, and connection.

Clearly our patrons have caught on to the possibility YDL offers. We have experienced an unprecedented increase in demand for library services. Nearly 1 million items were borrowed in 2009. Attendance at library-sponsored programs reached all-time highs with over 40,000 library users of all ages participating in various events. Residents can take the first step to creating their own success stories at the library. As we like to say at YDL… "Start Here. Go Anywhere."

Jill Morey
Library Director
Ypsilanti District Library



The Possibility *of a Fresh Start*

Of Chambers as the Cedars– Impregnable

In 2009, YDL offered the possibility of a new career. While job seekers accessed the Michigan Talent Bank, others created resumes or researched the possibility of their own businesses. YDL provided young patrons exposure to one of the keys to a successful life: reading. Story times inspired new bookworms at the library, pre-schools and elementary schools all around town. Youth and teens had opportunities to start making a difference through participation in TAG (Teen Advisory Group), and learning about "Helpers and Heroes" in our community.

FACT: Users of public internet computers in 2009 totaled 205,954.



The Possibility *to Experience and Appreciate*

And for an
Everlasting Roof
The Gambrels of
the Sky–

With more than 2,000 programs, activities and events, many "I Wonder What That's Like" came to YDL throughout 2009 and found out. Whether it was making a Kente cloth, sharpening computer skills or taking in a reptile show, patrons of all ages had many chances to learn something new – often about themselves. But not all personal growth and discovery has to happen in a scheduled activity at YDL. Enjoying a good read in front of the fire was activity enough for many patrons while others took in YDL's art collection. It continued to grow last year and provided a gallery experience in its own right.

FACT: YDL offered 2,118 programs for all ages throughout 2009.



The Possibility *of Feeling Connected*

Of Visitors–

the fairest–

For Occupation–

This–

This past year YDL embraced our community in many different ways. Patrons gathered every month to connect and express views in book groups. Families got together on game nights. The whole community shared literary experiences in our annual "community reads" event. A new café opened in the atrium offering patrons a chance to catch up with the latest chapter of a friend's life. And for those patrons who couldn't get to the library, YDL connected through our many outreach programs and services.

FACT: In 2009, visits to YDL totaled 554,001.



The YDL *Financial Picture*

Property Taxes	$3,664,596	89%
Penal Fines	$143,647	4%
State Aid	$50,144	1%
Interest & Other	$173,213	4%
Grants/Donations/Friends	$63,513	2%
Total	**$4,095,113**	**100%**

Salaries/Benefits	$2,480,002	61%
Library Materials	$474,860	12%
Contractual	$107,731	3%
Automation/Capital Outlay	$428,084	11%
Utilities/Repairs	$303,730	7%
Other	$258,924	6%
Total	**$4,053,331**	**100%**

This budget is an audited statement of actual revenues and expenses for the fiscal year beginning December 1, 2008 and ending November 30, 2009.

The spreading

wide my

narrow Hands

To gather

Paradise–

Ypsilanti District Library
YDL–Whittaker Road
5577 Whittaker Road
734.482.4110

www.ypsilibrary.org

Winner of the 2009 John Cotton Dana Award

